

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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USIA-06 OMB-01 /074 W

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R 200930Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2012

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1578

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, IS, ZA

SUBJECT: ZAMBIA AND ISRAEL

REF: STATE 194242

1. AMB SOFFER'S ASSESSMENT OF ZAMBIAN POSITION ON ISRAEL IS VERY SIMILAR TO OUR OWN REPORTED LUSAKA 1447. AS ZAMBIA WAS NOT REPRESENTED AT OAU SUMMIT IN KAMPALA IT HAS NOT YET BEEN OBLIGED TAKE PUBLIC STANCE ON THIS QUESTION. SHOULD ISSUE OF ISRAELI SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION FROM UNGA ARISE AT LIMA NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE NEXT WEEK, ZAMBIA UNLIKELY TO SUPPORT MOVE FOR EXPULSION BUT WOULD PROBABLY GO ALONG WITH A MAJORITY VOTE FOR SUSPENSION.

2. ABOVE ASSESSMENT REINFORCED BY ITALIAN AMBASSADOR ROSSI'S ACCOUNT TO US YESTERDAY OF HIS RECENT DEMARCHE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARY MANDA IN SUPPORT OF CONCEPT OF UNIVERSALITY OF UN MEMBERSHIP. (ROSSI WAS ACTING AS SPOKESMAN FOR ENT EC NINE OF WHICH ITALY CURRENTLY IS CHAIRMAN.) IN REPLY TO ROSSI, MANDA STATED ZAMBIA (A) WILL TAKE NO RPT NO INITIATIVE
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AGAINST ISRAEL; (B) WILL GIVE NO SUPPORT TO EXPULSION

OF ISRAEL; BUT (C) WILL SUPPORT SUSPENSION OF ISRAEL.
MANDA IMPLIED THERE IS LINK BETWEEN SUSPENSION OF ISRAEL
AND AFRICANS' DESIRE FOR ARAB SUPPORT OF MOVE TO SUSPEND
SOUTH AFRICA, THOUGH ZAMBIA LIKELY SUPPORT SUCH ACTION
AGAINST ISRAEL RELUCTANTLY. ASKED BY ROSSI
WHETHER RENEWED EFFORT TO SUSPEND SOUTH AFRICA NOT
INCONSISTENT WITH ZAMBIAN ALMOST DAILY CONTACT WITH
PRETORIA ON RHODESIAN ISSUE, MANDA SAID THAT ZAMBIA NEEDS
KEEP UP CONSTANT PRESSURE ON SOUTH AFRICA.

3. AT INFORMAL LUNCHEON ON AUGUST 17 WE ASKED MINISTER
OF STATE FOR FONAFF SILWIZYA HOW ZAMBIA VIEWS ISSUE OF
ISRAELI EXPULSION/SUSPENSION. SILWIZYA SAID ZAMBIAN
RESENTMENT OF ARAB PRESSURES WITHIN OAU ON THIS ISSUE
AT TIME WHEN ARABS HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT CHURLISH ABOUT AFRICAN
REQUESTS FOR ECONOMIC AID AND CONCESSIONAL OIL PRICES.
SILWIZYA CLEARLY DID NOT FAVOR ISRAELI SUSPENSION FROM UNGA,
NOTING THAT MIDEAST SETTLEMENT MORE LIKELY TO
BE ACHIEVED IF ISRAEL REMAINS IN UN WHERE IT CAN BE SUBJECT
TO PERSUASIVE PRESSURES OF OTHER MEMBERS. TAXED WITH
INCONSISTENCY BETWEEN THIS POSITION AND ZAMBIAN SUPPORT OF
MOVE TO OUST SOUTH AFRICA, SILWIZYA REPLIED ONLY THAT
SITUATIONS OF SOUTH AFRICA AND ISRAEL ARE "DIFFERENT".

4. COMMENT: FROM ABOVE COMMENTS WE DRAW
CONCLUSION THAT ZAMBIANS WOULD SUPPORT MOVE BY MAJORITY
IN UNGA FOR SUSPENSION OF ISRAEL AS QUID PRO QUO FOR
ARAB SUPPORT OF SIMILAR MOVE AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. WHILE
CONCEPT OF AFRO-ARAB SOLIDARITY ON THIS ISSUE
SOMEWHAT TATTERED AFTER RECENT KAMPALA SUMMIT, ZAMBIANS AND
OTHER AFRICANS OBVIOUSLY UNWILLING JEOPARDIZE CHANCES
FOR ARAB SUPPORT ON ISSUE OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE
TO THEM. AFRICAN SUSPICIONS OF ISRAELI ECONOMIC AND
MILITARY COOPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA HAVE NOT HELPED
ISRAELI CAUSE ANY HERE.
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